What is claimed is:

1. An enclosure feeder system (500) for use with an inserter system that combines collations in a sequence of collations with a given number of respective corresponding specific enclosures, the enclosure feeder system for providing the enclosures to be combined with the collations, the enclosures for each successive collation ordinarily being separator by a divider indicator for indicating the end of the sequence of enclosures for a collation, the enclosure feeder system (500) comprising:

enclosure feeding means (210), responsive to a feed count request for a collation and to an expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures, for feeding the specific enclosures and for providing an enclosure count corresponding to the number of specific enclosures actually fed; and

supervisory control means (300), responsive to the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures, for providing the feed count request for a collation and the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures, and further responsive to the enclosure count corresponding to the number of specific enclosures actually fed, for comparing the number of enclosures actually fed for a collation to the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures;

wherein the enclosure feeding means (210) continues feeding enclosures for the collation until either encountering a divider indicator or until the number of enclosures is equal to the expected number of enclosures.

2. An enclosure feeder system (500) as in claim 1, further comprising an input analyzer (501) for providing for each collation in the sequence of collations the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures; wherein the input analyzer (501) determines the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures based on information provided in a control document included in each collation.

3. An enclosure feeder system (500) as in claim 1, wherein if the enclosure feeding means (210) discontinues feeding enclosures before encountering and recognizing a divider indicator, then the enclosure feeding means uses as the enclosure count for the collation a number based on the expected number of enclosures, and otherwise uses the number of enclosures actually fed for the collation.

4. An enclosure feeder system (500) as in claim 3, wherein the number based on the expected number of enclosures used as the enclosure count is one more than the expected number of enclosures.

5. A method for monitoring and coordinating the processing of a sequence of collations through an inserter system, the inserter system for combining each collation in the sequence of collations with a given number of respective corresponding specific enclosures, the enclosures for each successive collation ordinarily being separator by a divider indicator for indicating the end of the sequence of enclosures for a collation, the method comprising:

determining (401) for each collation in the sequence of collations the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures;

searching (403) for each collation for an indication of the end of the sequence of enclosures for the collation; and

feeding (403) the specific enclosures until either reaching the indication of the end of the sequence of enclosures for the collation or until having fed a number of enclosures equal to the expected number of enclosures.

6. A method as in claim 5, wherein the expected number of respective corresponding specific enclosures is determined based on information provided in a control document included in each collation.

7. A method as in claim 5, wherein if the feeding of the specific enclosures is discontinued before encountering and recognizing an indication of the end of the sequence of enclosures, then a number based on the expected number of enclosures is used as the enclosure count for the collation, and otherwise the number of enclosures actually fed for the collation is used as the enclosure count.

8. A method as in claim 7, wherein the number based on the expected number of enclosures used as the enclosure count is one more than the expected number of enclosures.